

ABSOLUTE RATING: Below Average

IMPROVEMENT RATING: Unsatisfactory

Number of Elementary schools with students like ours: 77.

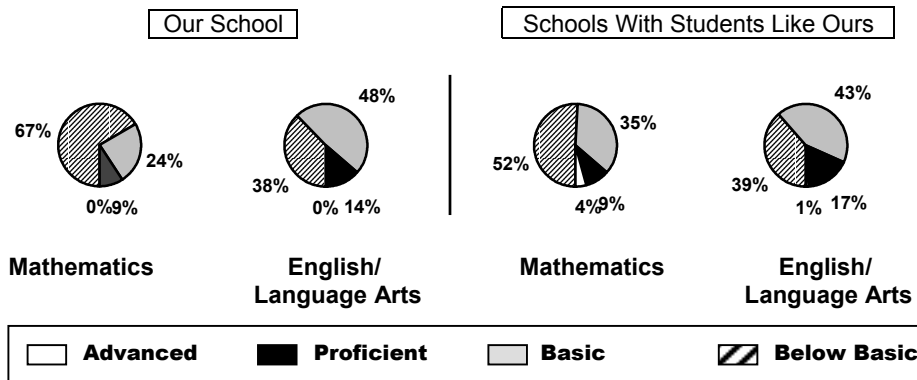
The absolute ratings for those schools ranged from unsatisfactory to good. For improvement ratings, the range was from unsatisfactory to excellent.

RATINGS OVER A 4-YEAR PERIOD



(Definitions of School Rating Terms on Page 4)

PALMETTO ACHIEVEMENT CHALLENGE TESTS (PACT) RESULTS



DEFINITIONS OF CRITICAL TERMS:

- Advanced** – Student performance exceeded expectations.
- Proficient** – Student performance met expectations.
- Basic** – Student performance met minimum performance expectations.
- Below Basic** – Student performance did not meet minimum performance expectations.

Science scores are to be reported on the 2004 School Report Card. Social studies scores are to be reported on the 2005 School Report Card.

PERCENT OF STUDENTS SCORING BASIC OR ABOVE ON THE PACT				
Student Group	English/ Language Arts	Math	Science	Social Studies
All students (n=66)	62.1	33.3	N/A	N/A
Students with disabilities other than Speech (n=6)	N/A	N/A		
Students without disabilities (n=60)	63.3	36.7		
Gender				
Male (n=29)	N/A	N/A		
Female (n=37)	59.5	29.7		
Ethnic Group				
African American (n=66)	62.1	33.3		
Hispanic (n=N/A)	N/A	N/A		
White (n=N/A)	N/A	N/A		
Other (n=N/A)	N/A	N/A		
Lunch Status Group				
Free/reduced-price Lunch (n=65)	61.5	32.3		
Pay for lunch (n=1)	N/A	N/A		

SCHOOL PROFILE

INDICATORS OF SCHOOL PERFORMANCE

SCHOOL	Our School	Change From Last Year	Schools with Students like ours	Median Elementary School
• Dollars spent per student	\$6,579	N/A	\$6,133	\$5,347
• Prime instructional time	90.7%	Up from 88.8%	89.4%	90.2%
• Student-teacher ratio in core subjects	13.7 to 1	N/A	16.2 to 1	18.7 to 1
STUDENTS (n=205)				
• Attendance Rate	97.6%	Up from 95%	96.1%	96.2%
• Students with disabilities other than speech taking PACT (ELA) off grade level	10.6%	N/A	7.1%	4.1%
• Students with disabilities other than speech taking PACT (math) off grade level	10.6%	N/A	6.7%	3.1%
• First graders who attended full day kindergarten	100%	No change	98.1%	96.3%
• Meeting grade 1 and 2 readiness standards	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
• Retention rate	8.8%	Down from 8.9%	6%	3.6%
TEACHERS (n=22)				
• Professional Development days per teacher	10.4 Days	Up from 7.8	7.5 Days	7.6 days
• Attendance Rate	96%	Up from 95.2%	95.1%	95.1%
• Teachers with advanced degrees	31.8%	Down from 36.4%	45%	47.7%
• Continuing contract teachers	50%	Down from 82.6%	77.1%	83.8%
• Teachers with out-of-field permits	4.5%	Up from 0%	2.7%	0.0%
• Teachers returning from the previous school year	77.6%	No change	81.4%	87.2%
• Average teacher salary	\$34,502	Up 3.5%	\$36,222	\$37,520

SCHOOL FACTS

	Our School	Change From Last Year	Schools with Students like ours	Median Elementary School
SCHOOL				
• Percentage of expenditures spent on teacher salaries	75.3%	N/A	63.8%	65.3%
• Principal's years at the school	3	N/A	5	4.0
• Parents attending conferences	70.7%	N/A	88.3%	95.6%
• Opportunities in the arts	Good	N/A	Good	Good
STUDENTS				
• On academic plans	56.5%	Up from 34.7%	66.4%	43.1%
• On academic probation	0%	N/A	0%	0.0%
• Older than usual for grade	N/A	N/A	2.2%	1.1%
• Suspended or expelled	10	N/A	3	1
• Gifted and talented	6.7%	Up from 1%	4.5%	11.5%
• With disabilities other than speech	8%	No change	9%	8.4%



PRINCIPAL'S / SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT COUNCIL REPORT

Sarah Nance Elementary School has promoted instruction consistent with the state's content and achievement standards and has implemented many programs to ensure student success. Because of our progress, Nance received State Incentive Awards for the 1993-94 and 1997-98 school terms. The school also received the District Productivity Award during the 1998-99 school term. During the 1998-99 school term, Nance moved from being the lowest-achieving school in our district to mid-level achievement. Our goal is to be one of the top-performing schools in our district by the end of the 2001-02 school year. With administrative changes, efforts to obtain quality staff, and a move into a new building to merge with another school, Watkins Elementary, we believe that we will achieve this goal.

A major focus of instruction is effective communication skills for students. Programs designed to reinforce such skills are Reading is Fundamental (RIF), our Title I computer lab, Word of the Day, the Writing Process, the Wee Deliver Postal System, the Lt. Governor's Essay Contest, and Drop Everything and Read or Write (DEAROW). Another focus is character education.

We have created an alternative class for students in grades K-5 who need help with social skills. Nance also has an Adopt-A-School/Lunch Buddy system and offers college students as tutors through the Carolina for Kids program.

Because of the new assessment system, Nance has worked to prepare students to meet new challenges. Mock testing and district assessment testing are conducted each quarter to familiarize students with test formats and procedures.

Students are recognized for outstanding academic performance at quarterly awards ceremonies and PTO meetings. Our Honor Student Program, YMCA Youth Incentive Program (YIP), and Student and Class of the Month Programs focus on pupils' academic performance and character.

Nance employs a number of unique parent/community outreach programs. These include the Parent Breakfast Club, Parent-Teacher Conference Incentives, Pennies for Friends and Families, and a Thanksgiving food drive.

In spite of our successes, we have some barriers that inhibit progress. These include having more than 50 percent of our students enter school not ready, as indicated by the Cognitive Skills Assessment Battery (CSAB), limited parent participation, and limited reinforcement of academic skills at home. However, we are making strides in these areas and are proud of our progress.

EVALUATIONS BY TEACHERS AND STUDENTS

Percent	Teachers	Students	Parents
Satisfied with learning environment	84.2	85.0	(Avail. 2002)
Satisfied with social and physical environment	73.7	100.0	
Satisfied with home-school relations	73.7	85.0	

DEFINITIONS OF SCHOOL RATING TERMS

Excellent – School performance substantially exceeds the standards for progress toward the 2010 SC Performance Goal.

Good – School performance exceeds the standards for progress toward the 2010 SC Performance Goal.

Average – School performance meets the standards for progress toward the 2010 SC Performance Goal.

Below Average – School is in jeopardy of not meeting the standards for progress toward the 2010 SC Performance Goal.

Unsatisfactory – School performance fails to meet the standards for progress toward the 2010 SC Performance Goal.

4001049

Sarah Nance Elementary
2611 Grant Street
Columbia, S. C. 29203

Grades K-5 Elementary School

Enrollment: 205 Students

Principal

Dr. Evelyn Cohens 803-343-2919

Superintendent

Dr. Ronald L. Epps 803-733-6041

Board Chair

Vince Ford 803-733-6061

THE STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

Annual School
Report Card

2001

School Grade:
Unsatisfactory

South Carolina Performance Goal:

By 2010, South Carolina's student achievement will be ranked in the top half of the states nationally. To achieve this goal, we must become one of the five fastest improving systems in the country.

For more information, visit our website at
www.myschools.com